

REPUBLICANS JUST SAY NO:

No New Ideas, No Viable Alternatives

*“We're not just going to be the Party of No.
We're not just going to be the party of opposition.”
– House Minority Leader John Boehner, 2/27/09*

Fifty days ago, President Obama walked into the White House and inherited one of the worst economic crises this country has ever seen. And while the Republicans helped us into this fiscal mess, they seem to have very little interest in providing responsible solutions to get us out. Extraordinary times call for bold, viable measures, but the Republicans have offered nothing more than empty rhetoric.

According to a recent Newsweek poll, “The GOP... is viewed by a majority of Americans as the party of ‘no,’ without a plan of its own to fix the economy” (3/6/09).

“The G.O.P. leaders have adopted a posture that allows the Democrats to make all the proposals while all the Republicans can say is ‘no.’ They’ve apparently decided that it’s easier to repeat the familiar talking points than actually think through a response to the extraordinary crisis at hand.” – David Brooks, New York Times, 3/10/09

“In a time of crisis, most Republican lawmakers refused to help right things, even when greeted with a bill that caved in heavily to their demands — a bill roughly one-third tax cuts. We thought tax cuts were a GOP priority. Wrong. **Partisan politics, it seems, is the GOP’s real priority... These anti-anything gestures will make it ‘the party of no,’ condemning Republicans to even more irrelevance than they offer right now.” – Waco Tribune Herald (TX), 2/16/09**

“The [Republican] party also risks being branded as a ‘party of no’ at a time when most Americans favour government activism.” – The Economist, 3/5/09

“There are some basic questions to be answered, such as: Has the right become too conservative or not conservative enough? **Is it enough to be a party of ‘no,’ or do Republicans need to reinvent themselves and provide new ideas of their own?” – Washington Post, 3/1/09**

“Another day, another no vote....Is saying no to Obama’s agenda the way to get voters to say yes to an already beleaguered GOP brand? Despite two consecutive election thrashings, and despite Obama’s high approval ratings and their own low standing, Republicans have wagered that the return to the majority is paved by unwavering opposition to further spending.” – Politico, 2/26/09

“There's very little magic in the Party of No these days, if any.” – Phil Bronstein, San Francisco Chronicle, 2/23/09

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